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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/280,618
Filing Date	March 29, 1999
Examiner Name	Keith M. George
First Named Inventor	Mahdi S. CHAMBERS
Group Art Unit	2663
Attorney Docket Number	29250-000915/US

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

a.  Previously submitted

- Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on March 15, 2004 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. Enclosed

- Amendment/Reply
- Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Miscellaneous**

a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No.08-0750.

- RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- Other Any deficiency for a fee required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17.

b.  Check in the amount of \$ 770.00 enclosed

c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

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**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print /Type)	John E. Curtin	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	37,602
Signature		Date	March 29, 2004

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below.

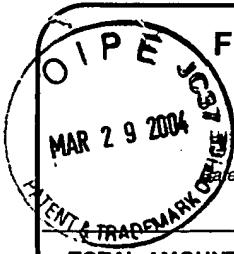
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# FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2003

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 770.00)

Complete if Known

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METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)					FEE CALCULATION (continued)																																																																																																																																																																																														
<p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any over payments to:</p> <p>Deposit Account Number <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">08-0750</span></p> <p>Deposit Account Name <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Harness, Dickey &amp; Pierce, P.L.C.</span></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27</p>					<p><b>3. ADDITIONAL FEES</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Fee Code</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Large Entity Fee (\$)</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Small Entity Fee (\$)</th> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Fee Description</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Fee Paid</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1051</td><td>130</td><td>2051</td><td>65</td><td>Surcharge - late filing fee or oath</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1052</td><td>50</td><td>2052</td><td>25</td><td>Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1053</td><td>1053</td><td>1053</td><td>130</td><td>Non-English specification</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1812</td><td>2,520</td><td>1812</td><td>2,520</td><td>For filing a request for reexamination</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1804</td><td>920*</td><td>1804</td><td>920*</td><td>Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1805</td><td>1,840*</td><td>1805</td><td>1,840*</td><td>Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1251</td><td>110</td><td>2251</td><td>55</td><td>Extension for reply within first month</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1252</td><td>420</td><td>2252</td><td>210</td><td>Extension for reply within second month</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1253</td><td>950</td><td>2253</td><td>475</td><td>Extension for reply within third month</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1254</td><td>1,480</td><td>2254</td><td>740</td><td>Extension for reply within fourth month</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1255</td><td>2,010</td><td>2255</td><td>1,005</td><td>Extension for reply within fifth month</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1401</td><td>330</td><td>2401</td><td>165</td><td>Notice of Appeal</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1402</td><td>330</td><td>2402</td><td>165</td><td>Filing a brief in support of an appeal</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1403</td><td>290</td><td>2403</td><td>145</td><td>Request for oral hearing</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1451</td><td>1,510</td><td>1451</td><td>1,510</td><td>Petition to institute a public use proceeding</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1452</td><td>110</td><td>2452</td><td>55</td><td>Petition to revive - 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\*\*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

SUBMITTED BY						Complete if applicable	
Name (Print/Type)	John E. Curtis	Registration No. Attorney/Agent)	37,602	Telephone	703-668-8000		
Signature				Date	March 29, 2004		

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